

2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

**Subtitle —Veterans Matters**

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . EXTENSIONS OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATING TO BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

(a) EXTENSION OF STUDENT VETERAN CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT OF 2020.—Section 2 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140; 38 U.S.C. 3031 note), as amended by section 5202(a) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2020 (division E of Public Law 116-159), is further amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(b) EXTENSION OF PAYMENT OF WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCES DURING EMERGENCY SITUATION.—Section 3 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (38 U.S.C. 3485 note) is amended by striking “During the covered period” and inserting “During the period beginning on March 1, 2020, and ending on June 1, 2022”.

(c) EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.—Section 1(b) of Public Law 116-128 (38 U.S.C. 3001 note prec.), as amended by section 5202(b) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2020 (division E of Public Law 116-159), is further amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(d) EXTENSION OF MODIFICATION OF TIME LIMITATIONS ON USE OF ENTITLEMENT TO MONTGOMERY GI BILL AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND TRAINING.—Section 1105 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315) is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” each place it appears and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(e) EXTENSION OF CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY.—Section 1102(e) of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315) is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(f) EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO EFFECTS OF CLOSURE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND MODIFICATION OF COURSES BY REASON OF COVID-19 EMERGENCY.—Section 1103(h) of such Act is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(g) EXTENSION OF PROVISION RELATING TO PAYMENT OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF WITHDRAWAL.—Section 1104(a) of such Act is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(h) EXTENSION OF PROVISION RELATING TO APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-JOB TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1106(b) of such Act is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . MODIFICATIONS TO REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

(a) WAIVER OF VERIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT FOR CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—Section 3313(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of this subsection for an educational institution that the Secretary has determined uses a flat tuition and fee structure that would make the use of a second verification under this subsection unnecessary.”.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY TO DISAPPROVE OF COURSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B),

(i) by inserting “, except for the recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance” after “assistance”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) In determining whether a violation of subparagraph (B) has occurred, the State approving agency, or the Secretary when acting in the place of the State approving agency, shall construe the requirements of this paragraph in accordance with the regulations and guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 487(a)(20) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(20)).”;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph (7):

“(7) This subsection shall not apply to an educational institution—

“(A) located in a foreign country; or

“(B) that provides to a covered individual consumer information regarding costs of the program of education (including financial aid available to such covered individual) using a form or template developed by the Secretary of Education.”.

(2) APPLICATION DATE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not carry out subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, until August 1, 2022, except that, beginning on June 15, 2022, an educational institution may submit an application for a waiver under paragraph (5) of such subsection.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (c) of section 3696 of such title is amended—

(A) by inserting “(1)” before “An educational”;

(B) by inserting “, except for the recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance” after “assistance”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) In determining whether a violation of paragraph (1) has occurred, the Under Secretary for Benefits shall construe the requirements of this paragraph in accordance with the regulations and guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 487(a)(20) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(20)).”.

(c) EXEMPTION OF FOREIGN SCHOOLS FROM CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) INFORMATION RELATING TO TESTS.—Section 3689(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) Subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to an edu-

cational institution located in a foreign country.”.

(2) EXAMINATION OF RECORDS.—Section 3690(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking “Notwithstanding” and inserting “(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), notwithstanding”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to the records and accounts—

“(A) of an educational institution located in a foreign country; and

“(B) that pertain to an individual who is not receiving educational assistance under this chapter.”.

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a program of education approved by a State approving agency, or the Secretary of Veterans Affairs when acting in the role of a State approving agency, that is converted from being offered on-site at an educational institution to being offered by distance learning by reason of an emergency or health-related situation, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may continue to provide educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary without regard to such conversion, including with respect to paying any—

(1) monthly housing stipends under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code; or

(2) payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of such title and chapters 1606 and 1607 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) APPLICABILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a) shall apply during the period beginning on December 21, 2021, and ending on June 1, 2022.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term “educational institution” has the meaning given that term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code, and includes an institution of higher learning (as defined in such section).

(2) PROGRAM OF EDUCATION.—The term “program of education” has the meaning given that term in section 3002 of title 38, United States Code.

(3) STATE APPROVING AGENCY.—The term “State approving agency” has the meaning given that term in section 3671 of title 38, United States Code.

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Amounts provided to carry out the amendments made by this subtitle are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, amounts provided to carry out the amendments made by this subtitle are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 412(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

**SA 4806.** Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel

strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**TITLE —EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**SEC. 01. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Advancing Emergency Preparedness Through One Health Act of 2021”.

**SEC. 02. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The term “One Health” reflects the interconnectedness of human health, animal health, and the environment. As technology and population growth facilitates increased interaction of human settlements with wildlife habitats and as international travel and trade increases, the interface between these elements will also continue to rise.

(2) When zoonotic diseases spill over to humans, there are often enormous health and economic costs. The World Bank estimates that, between 1997 and 2009, the global costs from six zoonotic outbreaks exceeded \$80,000,000,000 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that there are annually 2,500,000,000 cases of zoonotic infections globally, resulting in 2,700,000 deaths.

(3) There are also immense effects on the agriculture sector. In 2014 and 2015, a high pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak in the United States led to the cull of nearly 50,000,000 birds, and imposed up to approximately \$3,300,000,000 in losses for poultry and egg farmers, animal feed producers, baked good production, and other related industries.

(4) Public health preparedness depends on agriculture in a variety of ways. For example, a wide range of vaccines, including those for influenza, yellow fever, rabies, and measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), are primarily cultivated in poultry eggs. Egg shortages resulting from zoonotic disease outbreaks could impose serious risks to vaccine manufacturing efforts.

(5) It is estimated that approximately 80 percent of potential pathogens likely to be used in bioterrorism or biowarfare are common zoonotic pathogens.

(6) While existing Federal Government initiatives related to One Health span multiple agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention One Health office and the Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services’ One Health Coordination Center, additional interagency coordination is necessary to help better prevent, prepare for, and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks.

**SEC. 03. INTERAGENCY ONE HEALTH PROGRAM.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this title as the “Secretaries”), in coordination with the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense, the Department of Commerce, and other departments and agencies as appropriate, shall develop, publish, and submit to Congress a national One Health Framework (referred to in this title as the “framework”) for coordinated Federal Activities under the One Health Program.

(b) NATIONAL ONE HEALTH FRAMEWORK.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries, in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, the Depart-

ment of Defense, the Department of Commerce, and other departments and agencies as appropriate, shall develop, publish, and submit to Congress a One Health Framework (referred to in this section as the “framework”) for coordinated Federal activities under the One Health Program.

(2) CONTENTS OF FRAMEWORK.—The framework described in paragraph (1) shall describe existing efforts and contain recommendations for building upon and complementing the activities of the Department of the Interior, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, the Department of Agriculture, the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Homeland Security, and other departments and agencies, as appropriate, and shall—

(A) assess, identify, and describe, as appropriate, existing activities of Federal agencies and departments under the One Health Program and consider whether all relevant agencies are adequately represented;

(B) for the 10-year period beginning in the year the framework is submitted, establish specific Federal goals and priorities that most effectively advance—

(i) scientific understanding of the connections between human, animal, and environmental health;

(ii) coordination and collaboration between agencies involved in the framework including sharing data and information, engaging in joint fieldwork, and engaging in joint laboratory studies related to One Health;

(iii) identification of priority zoonotic diseases and priority areas of study;

(iv) surveillance of priority zoonotic diseases and their transmission between animals and humans;

(v) prevention of priority zoonotic diseases and their transmission between animals and humans;

(vi) protocol development to improve joint outbreak response to and recovery from zoonotic disease outbreaks in animals and humans; and

(vii) workforce development to prevent and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks in animals and humans;

(C) describe specific activities required to achieve the goals and priorities described in subparagraph (B), and propose a timeline for achieving these goals;

(D) identify and expand partnerships, as appropriate, among Federal agencies, States, Indian tribes, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and private entities in order to develop new approaches for reducing hazards to human and animal health and to strengthen understanding of the value of an integrated approach under the One Health Program to addressing public health threats in a manner that prevents duplication;

(E) identify best practices related to State and local-level research coordination, field activities, and disease outbreak preparedness, response, and recovery related to One Health; and

(F) provide recommendations to Congress regarding additional action or legislation that may be required to assist in establishing the One Health Program.

(3) ADDENDUM.—Not later than 3 years after the creation of the framework, the Secretaries, in coordination with the agencies described in paragraph (1), shall submit to Congress an addendum to the framework that describes the progress made in advancing the activities described in the framework.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary.

**SEC. 04. GAO REPORT.**

Not later than 2 years after the date of the submission of the addendum under section 03(b)(3), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) details existing collaborative efforts between the Department of the Interior, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Agriculture, the United States Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Homeland Security, and other departments and agencies to prevent and respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks in animals and humans; and

(2) contains an evaluation of the framework and the specific activities requested to achieve the framework.

**SA 4807.** Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

**SEC. 1064. STUDY AND REPORT ON THE REDISTRIBUTION OF COVID-19 VACCINE DOSES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE EXPIRE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIES.**

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall conduct a study to identify and analyze the logistical prerequisites for the collection of unused and unexpired doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in the United States and for the distribution of such doses to foreign countries and economies.

(2) MATTERS STUDIED.—The matters studied by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) options for the collection of unused and unexpired doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from entities in the United States;

(B) methods for the collection and shipment of such doses to foreign countries and economies;

(C) methods for ensuring the appropriate storage and handling of such doses during and following the distribution and delivery of the doses to such countries and economies;

(D) the capacity and capability of foreign countries and economies receiving such doses to distribute and administer the doses while assuring their safety and quality;

(E) the minimum supply of doses of the COVID-19 vaccine necessary to be retained within the United States; and

(F) other Federal agencies with which the heads of the relevant agencies should coordinate to accomplish the tasks described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) and the degree of coordination necessary between such agencies.